

From: david lopez
To: microsoftcomments@doj.ca.gov@inetgw,attorney.gener...
Date: 11/20/01 11:47am
Subject: microsoft anti-trust case

Dear Sirs/Madams:

I am glad to hear that your offices have chosen not to join in on the deal that the U.S. Department of Justice recently struck with Microsoft.

Unfortunately, my home state of New York has decided to change its mind regarding the economic evils of a monopoly power in the marketplace.

I will not go into a lengthy discussion as to why a monopoly is a bad thing. Any freshman economics major can tell you that.

I am also sure I do not have to remind you that the previous antitrust case against Microsoft went nowhere because the government chose to use conduct remedies that Microsoft subsequently ignored. As someone once said "Those who ignore history are condemned to repeat it". I am afraid that the current administration does not read their legal history books.

In case you may think I do not understand technology, I have been operating production computer systems for over 15 years. I am well versed in the single vendor versus multi-vendor pros and cons. Please do not listen to the talking heads in various magazines who overwhelmingly support Microsoft either from ignorance or perhaps monetary arguments (Microsoft as a large consumer of advertising may very well influence editorial opinion).

In closing , Microsofts arguments regarding freedom to innovate are specious. Off-hand i can not list five things that Microsoft created for the computer industry that a competing company did not pioneer. Microsofts history is that they wait till someone else creates a market, they buy a small time bit player and use a bunch of money to promote their solution and the business consumer uses it because it is from Microsoft, not because it is techically a better product. The one thing I can give Microsoft credit for is their over-riding mantra of ease of use. Much of

the success Microsoft achieves in the marketplace is from bundling software titles and from making existing titles easier to use.

Sincerely,

David Lopez
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Database Administrator with a major financial company

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